Jaipaiguri. There is no proposal at present to construct a new kitchen at Guwahati.

(b) New Jalpaiguri Base Kitchen has been constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.7 lakhs.

(c) Northeast Frontier Railway is not managing any Pantry car service departmentally.

(d) The Base Kitchen at New Jaipaiguri supplies meals on trains having no pantry car service, and also on trains of other Railways with departmental pantry car service passing through New Jaipaiguri.

Pantry car service in 509/510 Avadh Assam Mail

1228. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the pantry car service in 509/510 Avadh-Assam Mail has been given to a private caterer by N. F. Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to start a departmental pantry car in newly operated weekly Howrah-Cochin Express ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) It has been decided to manage the proposed pantry car service by 509/510 Avadh-Assam Express through a licensed contractor. The allotment of pantry car contract has not yet been finalised.

(b) The departmental management is not feasible due to ban on creation of posts.

(c) It is proposed to introduce pantry car service by Cochin-Howrah Express, as and when new pantry cars become available. No decision has been taken to manage this pantry car service departmentally.

Handling of liquid cargo at major ports

1229. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the criteria for the allotment of land to Parties for the storage and handling of liquid cargo at major ports;

(b) what criteria/guidelines are applied for allotment of land for varying periods of (i) one year, (ii) 30 years and (iii) over 30 years; and

(c) whether any deviations have been made in exceptional circumstances in the past from above criteria if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c) No specific criteria for the allotment of land to parties for the storage and handling of liquid cargo at Major Ports has been laid down by the Government. Generally lands are given on lease to applicants after taking into accounts the availability of land, the likelihood of Port requiring the land in the short or long term, the need to encourage traffic through the port and related factors. If the lease is required for more than 30 years prior approval of Central Government is required.

Extension of Rajkot-Ahmedabad inter city express upto Vadodara

1230. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request for extending Rajkot-Ahmedabad inter city express upto Vadodara; if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Express takes less than nine hours to travel the distance between Ahmedabad and Bombay while another express train, Saurashtra Express takes more than thirteen hours to reach Bombay after its arrival at Ahmedabad from Gujarat; and

(c) whether Railways have received any complaint regarding the hardship caused to the long distance passengers of Saurashtra Express by the short distance commuters on Ahmedabad Bombay route; if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by Railways in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) ...

to lack of spare line capacity and other facilities.

(b) The journey time of Saurashtra Express between Ahmedabad and Bombay is 2 hours 25 minutes more than Gujarat Express due to additional stoppages en-route for the facility of passengers to/ from Porbandar side.

(c) Yes, Sir. Travel by short distance passengers and Monthly Season Ticket holders in reserved coaches is an offence under the Indian Railways' Act. Frequent drives are launched to apprehend and punish such unauthorised passengers.

Attachment of bogies in Navjeevan Express

1231. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation to attach direct bogies in Navjeevan Express for Behrampur in Orissa from Surat in Gujarat; if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are over 100,000 industrial workers from Orissa working in Surat; and

(c) whether there is any direct rail connection between Surat and Orissa at present; if not, whether Government are considering to give direct rail connection between Surat (South Gujarat) and Orissa; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Request of this effect has been received from the Orissabasi Railway Passengers Association, Surat. However, as Navjeevan Express is running with maximum permissible load, attaching additional coaches is not feasible.

(b) and (c) The intending passengers can travel by Navjeevan Express and connecting trains with a changeover at Vijayawada. Due to lack of spare line capacity and inadequate terminal facilities, introduction of an additional train has not been found feasible.

Amount due to Bombay Port Trust from various parties

1232 SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay Port Trust have to recover outstanding amount of demurrage from various parties;

(b) if so, the names of the parties who owe more than Rs. 25 lacs to BPT and the dates since when the amounts are due; and

(c) what action Government have taken/ propose to take to recover the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Demurrage charge accrue after expiry of last free day on all consignments which remain uncleared in the premises of the Bombay Port Trust. The demurrage charges on each consignment are calculated by Bombay Port Trust when goods are scheduled to be sold by auction or when parties come for clearance of their goods. Demurrage accounts are not maintained on accrual basis as the total number of packages lying uncleared is over 5,00,000. The names of the parties as per the present finalised accounts of the Bombay Port Trust against whom demurrage dues of Rs. 25 lacs or more are outstanding together with the dates from which they are due and action taken to recover the same is given below :—

Name of the party	Date from which demurrage is due	Action Taken
1 2	3	4
1. Jyoti Impex pvt. Ltd	29-5-89	Suit filed for recovery
2. Pahlaj Bajaj & Co. (Novelties Pvt. Ltd.)	15-2-80	Do.
3. Transocean Shipping Agency . . .	11-8-79	Do.
4. Dharmesh Metal Pressing Rolling Mills. .	21-8-80	Do.